

PORTRABLE ABRASIVE BLASTING GUN ASSEMBLY which issued to Jodooin on June 23, 1987, and 4,048,918, entitled STENCILING APPARATUS AND IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM which issued to Peck on September 20, 1977. Permanent markings on the insured vehicle give the insurer an opportunity to establish the existence of the insurance coverage of the marked vehicles and therefore provides a deterrent effect to thieves who will be unable to obtain top dollar for those vehicles which can be so easily identified.

Nevertheless, there are continuing efforts to develop a better method of preventing theft of vehicles using intensive marking and there is a need for a method of providing vehicle anti-theft services to clients.

15 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

One object of the present invention is to provide a method of preventing theft of vehicles using intensive markings which are permanently marked on insured vehicles.

20 Another object of the present invention is directed to a method of preventing theft of vehicles by providing anti-theft services to clients through a service network.

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, a method of preventing theft of vehicles using intensive marking comprises the steps of: establishing a service network including a service center having a databank for data processing and storage, and at least one service station providing 30 anti-theft service to clients; at the service station, verifying and collecting information on markings marked on a plurality of parts of a vehicle and identification

CLAIMS:

1. A method for preventing theft of vehicles using intensive marking comprising the steps of:

1) establishing a service network including a service center having a databank for data processing and storage, and at least one service station providing anti-theft service to clients;

2) at the service station, verifying and collecting information on markings marked on a plurality of parts of a vehicle and identification information of a client owning the vehicle, the markings including an intensive marking alphanumerical code which is permanently marked thereon and allows cross-referencing with the vehicle identification number thereof, and at least one part of the vehicle having a visible logo identifying the anti-theft service;

3) sending the collected information from the service station to the databank of the service center;

4) at the service center, processing and storing the received information; and

5) issuing a certificate corresponding with the vehicle, to the client and an insurance company.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the intensive marking alphanumerical code identifies a region of origin of an owner of the vehicle.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the intensive marking alphanumerical code uses an international coding system for identifying the region of origin of the owner.

4. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the intensive marking alphanumerical code is engraved on surfaces of the parts of the vehicle.
5. A method as claimed in claim 4 further comprising inspecting existing damages of the vehicle.
6. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a step of installing the markings, including the intensive marking alphanumerical code and the visible logo, on the vehicle at the service station when the vehicle does not have the markings.
7. A method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising a step of communicating with the service center to ensure that the intensive marking alphanumerical code provided to the vehicle does not match any existing intensive marking alphanumerical code stored in the databank.
8. A method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising steps of installing the markings on motor parts and installing the markings on external parts of the vehicle.
9. A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein not less than 50 parts of the vehicle are provided with the markings.
10. A method as claimed in claim 1 comprising sending a request for a temporary certificate from the service station to the service center when the vehicle already has the intensive marking alphanumerical code and the logo thereon.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10 further comprising a step of sending the temporary certificate from the service center to the service station.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11 further comprising steps of verifying the intensive marking alphanumerical code and logo on the individual motor parts and external parts of the vehicle upon the receipt of the temporary certificate from the service center.

13. A method as claimed in claim 12 further comprising adding the intensive marking alphanumerical code to a number of selected un-marked parts of the vehicle.

14. A method as claimed in claim 12 further comprising a step of adding the logo to a number of selected un-marked parts of the vehicle.

15. A method as claimed in claim 5 further comprising a step of obtaining signatures of the client and an agent of the service station on the certificate upon the completion of the verification and collection of the information and the inspection of the existing damages of the vehicle.

16. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising sending the information on the certificate to a police department and a national customs department.

17. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the databank of the service network is linked to the at least one service station, the insurance company, a police department and the national customs department.